

READERS' FORUM

Poor Dogs

13/9/88

To the Editor:

I was both angered and upset after reading an article in the Aug. 27 Mainichi Daily News which I suppose was meant to be a "heart-warming human-interest" article entitled "Dogs Get Foster Parent." It started out telling of two unfortunate shih tzu dogs who were left to starve and die, abandoned in an Toyonaka City apartment.

The article adds how the local police were so concerned that they gave the animals up to a certain Mihoko Kiso, who has great credentials as a concerned animal lover and member of the Hanshin branch of the Japan Association for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. All of which was heart warming and tends to give one faith in the kindness of man. If the story ended there all would be well and we could add another point in favor of "the good guys."

Unfortunately, the story continues. Our concerned Mrs. Kiso is then quoted as saying "I feel as if I'm getting new family members, but I want their owners to take them back immediately."

I couldn't believe my eyes when I read

this. How can a woman who cares enough to nurse sick animals back to health, and be a member of a humanitarian animals society possibly say she would give these poor creatures who survived on plants in an abandoned apartment for three weeks, obviously left to die, back to the cruel and stupid people who committed this crime.

If Mrs. Kiso has saved them only to have them go back to the same inhumane people and probably a miserable death, then I say she should give them to some kinder person who is willing to keep the dogs or have them put out of their misery by a vet in a painless fashion, (e.g., JAWS — Japan Animal Welfare Society, Nishinomiya — (0798) 71-8053 or any local veterinarian).

I don't see where Mrs. Kiso has much more of a heart of more sense than the poor animal's original family.

As for the local police; if you are going to save animals, give them to a responsible person! As for the Mainichi Daily News, if you're going to print a "heart-warming" human-interest story, GET IT RIGHT! Let's have a happy ending.

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